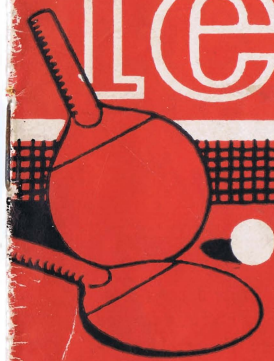


Vol. 1

No. 2

OCTOBER,
1946

Table Tennis REVIEW



NEWS

★

VIEWS

★

HINTS

★

Contributions
from Five
International
Players

★

6^D



A NEW Bat, with a NEW Idea, for the NEW Season

The
CARRINGTON

Table Tennis Bat

with the Patent

"All-Rounder"

Compensated

Handle

The Key to a sound

2-wing attack

Designed by
JACK CARRINGTON
English International 1939-46
Official Coach to London
League, Liverpool League, etc.

Your local dealer
can now obtain a limited
supply from the makers:—
S. W. HANCOCK, LTD.,
119, The Chase, LONDON, S.W.4

TABLE TENNIS

REVIEW

Editorial, Advertisement
and Publishing Office:
Kenworthy Buildings,
83, Bridge Street,
Manchester, 3.
Phone: BLACKfriars 0494.

Managing Editor:
ARTHUR WAITE
(1931 International).
Subscription Rate, 7/- per year.
Advertisement Rates sent on
request.

Vol. 1 No. 2

OCTOBER, 1946

6d. Monthly

As We See It . . .

THERE is a great danger of organised table tennis becoming divided into two sections—namely, amateur players and professional players. This crisis was foreseen years ago, and in order to hold together all ranks of players under one administration, players were allowed to receive money for their services, provided they abided by certain rulings.

We emerged from the war to find table tennis had grown in stature. We found its thrills were no longer confined to supporters of the game, but to the public in general. Played on the stage and at holiday camps, shown on the screen and broadcast on the radio, the public, hitherto ignorant of the possibilities of the sport, now saw that here was a new and novel form of entertainment.

To-day there is money in the game—and big money, too! Quite naturally the persons who realise this more than anybody else are those star players who provide the people with their entertainment. Very few of us are philanthropists, and the table tennis international is quite a normal individual with everyday ambitions and desires. Gone are those days when he was satisfied with his third-class railway fare and a packet of cigarettes, and, unless something is done to hold these players, they will break away from the present organisation.

There is little doubt that certain star players have become exceptionally discontented. They feel that their skill does not reap the reward which it warrants. Some of the English players have grievances, and feel that the "plums" of the game go to a favoured few. But, whatever may be the rights and wrongs of the case, the policy of this paper is to serve the interests of table tennis. Our columns are open to all readers to express their views. We welcome and pay for articles which express reasonable opinions, and likewise we invite administrative bodies to make use of our pages, and to reply to any article we may print.

We appeal to all international players to show restraint, and to observe rules that have been laid down for the good of the game. To break away from the present International Federation is a very drastic step which needs more than careful consideration. At the same time, we should like to see a little more liberty granted to the "paid player," so that the personal sacrifices he has to make to keep at the top are profitable and well worth his while.

THE EDITOR.

Everyman

Britain Views
The World

WE have pleasure in announcing that ON AUGUST 1ST, the magazine EVERYMAN of world-wide reputation will again be available, and will maintain its high standard as heretofore. It will be published as a monthly @ 1/-. The following articles will be found in its pages:

International
Affairs,
Book of the Month
Reviews, Theatre,
Cinema, Music,
Records, Travel,



Bridge and Chess
problems, Paint-
ing, Sculpture,
Short Stories,
Photography.

Place your orders now with your Bookseller
or Stationer or direct with us.

PAN PRESS PUBLICATIONS LIMITED.
King William Street House,
ARTHUR STREET, LONDON, E.C. 4
Phone: MANsion House 1955, 1956, 7327.

The Manchester & District T.T. League

(Affiliated to and Sanctioned by the E.T.T.A.)

ENTRIES Invited before 14.10.46

LANCS. "OPEN" CHAMPIONSHIPS

On 24th, 25th and 26th Oct., 1946

N. OF ENGLAND "OPEN" CHAMPIONSHIPS

On 23rd, 24th and 25th Jan., 1947

ENTRIES Close 12th Jan., 1947

THE HULL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

ON
Saturday, November 16th, 1946

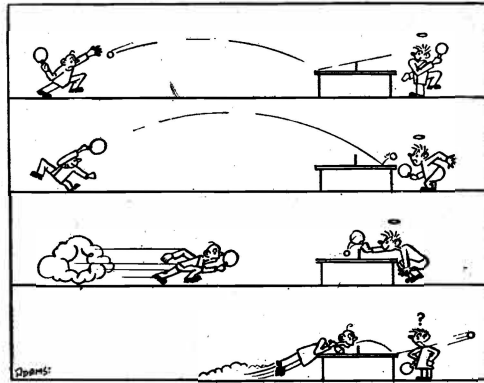
at the
EAST HULL BARRACKS,
Holderness Road, HULL

First Class Conditions

Apply to your League Secretary for entry
forms, or to Mr. H. Flinton, Hon. Tournament
Secretary, Hull & E. R. Table Tennis Associa-
tion, 28, Albert Avenue, Hull.

Down the White Line

By GOSSIMA



This month's cover portrait is of B. Vana (Czecho-Slovakia) taken at the last English Open Championships when he beat Richard Bergmann in the final. He is a definite favourite for the coming World's Championship.

* * *

The first issue of *Table Tennis Review* had only been on sale a few hours when we received a telegram from Exeter requesting the address of C. W. (Dibs) Davies who I mentioned had left Manchester to take up a business appointment near Exeter. It seems Davies was required very urgently to take part in an exhibition match at Tiverton. Dibs obliged, and won all his games except one, his defeat coming from the very capable hands of Miss Elizabeth Blackbourne, his scores being 14-21, 21-19, 19-21.

* * *

An official Scottish T.T. Association handbook is to be issued this season for the first time. This will give detailed information of all Scottish activities. Copies were promised for late September.

* * *

Sheffield fans are hoping that Chris Stone will be able to re-open his table tennis hall. In pre-war

days all the best players used to meet at "Stoney's" place. Jock Attwood is one of the most popular of Sheffield players. Jock is a grand sport and though he has an artificial leg he has overcome his disability remarkably well. It is possible that Mrs. Rowland Hibbins, a pre-war county player, will be seen once more in major events.

* * *

Dora Beregi (Exeter) and Connie Walters (Sheffield) will not be playing this season. They have both joined a club which is not affiliated to any association! Have you any idea of the name of the club? Other lady readers may join the club themselves one day! Best of luck Dora and Connie.

* * *

In our previous issue I stated that I was curious to know the real Christian name of our contributor and international player Miss Pinkie Barnes. I have now discovered this, but only on oath to keep the secret. However, I did receive one ingenious suggestion from Mr. Watts of Southport, who stated that Pinkie's name is "Petronella" coming from the two Greek words, "Petros," a stone, and "Nella," a wall. He ends by saying that apparently the Greeks had a word for defence!

Europe Cup Draw

The new Europe Cup is a team championship for both men and women. Both the men's and women's competitions have been divided into a West Zone and an East Zone. The draw for the West Zone has resulted in the following:—

MEN'S TEAM COMPETITION.	
1st Round	2nd Round
1. Bye	Switzerland
2. Bye	Scotland
3. Bye	England
4. Bye	Wales
5. Belgium	
6. France
7. Bye	Netherlands
8. Bye	Ireland
9. Bye	Luxembourg

The following play at home:—
No. 5 in the first round; Nos. 2, 4, 7, 9 in the second round; the winners of 1 v. 2 and 7 v. the winner of 5 v. 6 in the third round; and the winner of the bottom half in the Zone final.

The first round must be completed by October 15th; second by

December 1st; third by January 15th; and the Zone final by February 25th.

WOMEN'S TEAM COMPETITION.	
1st Round	Semi-Final
1. Bye	Belgium
2. France	
3. England
4. Ireland	
5. Scotland
6. Netherlands	
7. Switzerland

The following play at home:—
Nos. 2, 4, 6, in the first round; the winners of 2 v. 3 and 6 v. 7 in the second round; and the winner of the top half in the Zone final. The first round must be completed by November 1st; the second by January 1st; and the Zone final by February 25th.

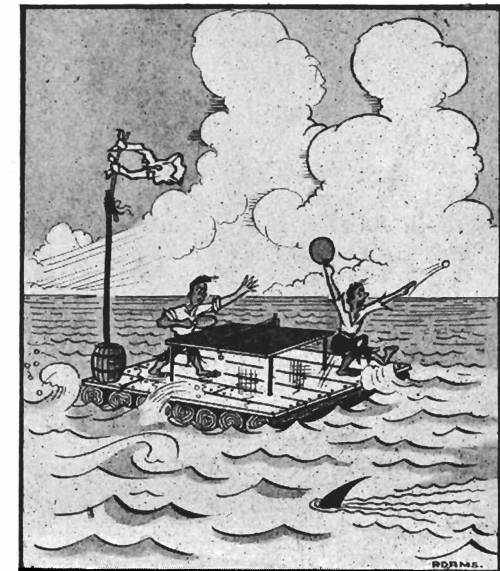
Countries eligible to compete in the East Zone are Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Esthonia S.S.R., Greece, Latvia, S.S.R., Lithuania S.S.R. Poland, Sweden, Yugoslavia.

South Staffordshire T.T.A

At the Annual General Meeting held at Wolverhampton on September 5th, the following officials were elected:—

President, D. W. Turner,
Chairman, M. Croydon (Shrewsbury),
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, A. E. Haskew (Wolverhampton).

Entries were accepted from Shrewsbury, Stafford, Walsall, West Bromwich, and Wolverhampton. An effort is being made to run a womens' league. A closed tournament is to be run, and it is possible that South Staffs. may enter a men's team in the Midland Counties' League.



"AN OPEN TOURNAMENT."

FRED CROMWELL
(INTERNATIONAL)

Writes on

England's Future

WHAT are our prospects in the international competition? I am afraid we will still be playing second fiddle to Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary, and the brilliant "babes" of the game in America. Lack of vitamins cannot be blamed for this, as we never made the grade in pre-war years, and, although F. J. Perry won the World's Singles title in 1928, this was a "flash-in-the-pan," as he never repeated that form, and was defeated in numerous tournaments in the same season by low-ranking players. Years of meagre rations and German occupation does not appear to have lowered the standard of play of the French and Czecho-Slovakians.

What is the secret of the continued success of the continental players, and how can it be overcome? I have made a close study of this matter, and my view is that it lies in *centralisation*. The game in Hungary, Czecho-Slovakia and in France is confined to the capitals, with nearly all the stars playing at the same club. This means that they are all practising together to a strict schedule for at least two hours each day, and all promising youth encouraged and coached. Their respective Governments keep a fatherly eye on all this, and lack of finance is not allowed to stand in the way of these players.

These theories have proved themselves in a minor way in my own city of Manchester, for out of the 70 pre-war teams, the two main clubs—the Y.M.C.A. and Grove House—have produced 11 out of the 14 internationals which the Mancunians possess.

What is needed, if we ever hope to win the Swaythling Cup or World

Championship titles is: (1) The education authorities should be approached with a view to making the game part of the sports syllabus of the schools, so that the table tennis education of the youth of the country will start almost in the nursery. (2) The setting up of headquarters in the main cities with a large number of tables where internationals and selected youngsters can get some really intensive practice. (3) Top-class players from the North, Midlands, and South should get together more for systemized practice, as tournaments only fill a small portion of the valuable experience to be gained by intermingling.

The only bright star in England's firmament is Johnny Leach, who is without a doubt England's No. 1, and he should be given all the facilities at the Association's disposal to help to keep the flag flying. Benny Casofsky has brilliant patches of play, and then disappoints with lapses at crucial moments; and I don't think his period of coaching at Butlin's Holiday Camp will have done his game any good. Continuous play with learners usually results in losing that heavy defensive "chop." I consider that it was the numerous exhibition games which caused the once invincible Barna to fall from his throne.

The English ladies are a brighter prospect with promising material in Vera Dace, Peggy Franks, and Pinky Barnes, and I would like to mention here my own prodigy, 14-year-old Adele Wood, of Manchester, who is a star in the making, and well worth cultivation this season by the Association, with a view to future honours.

A Welsh Resumé

By Mrs. H. ROY EVANS
(General Secretary, Table Tennis
Association of Wales)

WALES was a founder-member of the International Federation, and the game has always been well organised here. Previously, there has been a lack of success in international events, but now there appears to be a reborn enthusiasm among leagues to lift up the standard of play. The older leagues like Cardiff, Newport, Ogmore and Swansea are extending their activities, and new leagues in areas hitherto unorganised are showing signs of healthy life. In North Wales, where interest had dwindled away during the war, the old workers are gathering colleagues together, and soon I hope to see Rhyl, Llandudno, Holywell, etc., beginning again that North Wales section which promised so well before September, 1939.

Many of the leagues will be participating in the Welsh Intertown League, and entering teams of the under-eighteens in its Junior Section. Both Newport and Aberdare had good junior sides last season, and I think it is fair to say that Newport has a greater wealth of talent than any of the other leagues at the moment.

Ogmore have persisted in their determination to give juniors every chance, and have always been strong supporters of all open tournaments. Barry were weak last year, but very wisely have not allowed their lack of success to deter them from persevering with the youngsters. Eastern Valleys found travelling difficult, and didn't do too well in the league, but they would soon improve if they encouraged some of their men to enter more tournaments.

Both Cardiff and Newport will play in the Western Counties League with the nearby English leagues. Cardiff were champions last season, and will be trying hard to retain their honours, although their problem is a lack of "up and coming youngsters."

In West Wales, Swansea are stronger than ever, and according to present estimates, will retain their place as the largest league in the Association. Enthusiasm is high, and in addition to running their own open tournament for the first time, they intend being represented at all league tournaments. Up to the present their standard has not been high, but I know their officials are determined to make their league as powerful as it is large.

As to events in the international sphere, we certainly intend being represented at the World's Championship in Paris, and whatever the results, we believe that they can only be beneficial.

At Cardiff on November 9 we are to play England in the first round of the Western Zone of the European Cup, and on the following Saturday, November 16, we are to send a mixed team to play our first match with Scotland, this being an event which is eagerly awaited. We play England in a mixed match in West Wales on January 25, and go to Ireland for our mixed match with them, probably during February.

Our own Open National Tournament, to which we are inviting British and Continental players, will take place on December 14. The Welsh Closed is to be held on Easter Saturday, April 14.

£500 World's Table Tennis Challenge!

THE EDITOR HAS A VISITOR

A KNOCK on the office door can mean anybody. It might be the postman, an intending contributor, an artist, a reader, or a host of minor personalities—it may even be an E.T.T.A. official! This time, however, it was none of these, but the World's Champion himself.

Richard Bergmann is a pleasing personality, good looking, and with a smile that seems to possess a glint of schoolboy mischief. We talked for a couple of hours, and naturally the subject was table tennis. Richard is completely wrapped up in the game, which is only likely when one realises that he intends to make it his career.

He put a poster on my desk, and said: "What do you think of that?" I looked down, and the first thing which caught my eye was a 15-inch photograph of Bergmann in a playing position. The poster read as follows:

£500
WORLD'S TABLE TENNIS
CHALLENGE

By
RICHARD BERGMANN

While still the present holder of the World's Singles Table Tennis Title and many other Championships, I have decided to turn fully "Professional," and not to compete in any more Amateur Championships. I am prepared, however, to stake £500 on a match against any table tennis player in the world, of any age, whether "amateur" or "professional," who is willing to stake an equal sum of £500 to beat me in a table tennis match, best of

five games, and played in accordance with International Championship regulations. If my challenge should be accepted, I reserve the right to fix the date and venue suitable for such a challenge match within three months of acceptance.

(Signed) RICHARD BERGMANN.

"This challenge," he explained, "is a move to counter any charges accusing me of retiring from amateur table tennis simply because I am afraid of being defeated."

And then he went on to explain some of his ideas on professional table tennis, and I assure you these are quite revolutionary. This part of the chat was of a confidential nature, so let me pass on to other matters.

"I have just been watching Andy Millar," said Richard, "and, to me, his one great weakness is that he stands far too erect, and does not move quickly enough. A player should bend a little, or in other words, crouch in a position of anticipation."

He then stood up in a playing stance, in order to demonstrate his words. "The footwork of table tennis," he added, "is exactly the same as boxing. A player should dance about on his toes taking short steps, rather than long, awkward strides. Most players who never reach above ordinary standard take these long steps when reaching for a ball."

"What do you think of Vana?" I asked.

"Oh; he is very good," was the reply, and then that schoolboy grin came over his face. He picked up

one of my journalistic books, which I took to indicate that a change of subject would be the polite thing to do.

"You are not married, Richard?"

"No; but there is a very pretty Dutch girl . . ."

"I am sure you must have a lot of fans?" I asked.

"Yes; and I receive ever so many requests for photographs, so to please these people I have had a number printed, and they can be obtained from a friend of mine."

He gave me one of his rather attractive photographs, which was

glossy and postcard size. I was told that the cost of these photographs is 1s. 6d. each including postage, and they can be obtained from Miss Holden, 27, Coval Road, East Sheen, London, S.W. 14.

Richard Bergmann has obviously made careful plans for his future, but I cannot help thinking that amateur and competitive table tennis is being denied one of its most attractive stars. I am sure that all his followers will hope that his decision will not be quite as drastic as it appears.

BUNNY BRITTON
IS TAUGHT

The Forehand Drive

*Number Two of a series suitable for the beginner,
written in a novel form by an International player.*

"TOP-SPIN is absolutely essential to the forehand drive," began the captain, "and to obtain this spin the playing surface of the racket should be inclined towards the table."

Bunny nodded. He quite realised that top-spin was necessary if the ball was to be returned at any speed; but Bunny's problem was how to acquire that spin. His coach carried on, "I want you to listen and watch carefully for here is the whole action of the perfect drive. As the ball comes towards you on the right-hand side (if you are a right-handed player) you take a step backwards with your right foot, bringing your left hip round so that it faces the table, and transferring the weight of your body on to the right foot. Have you got that clearly?"

Bunny nodded his head again. He was grateful that Jack was giving the stroke in so much detail because he had read in a text book that footwork and the transfer of body weight were very important.

"At the same time that you make this movement," continued the

coach, "you draw your racket arm back with the elbow slightly bent, and then commence the forward action, the weight being carried from the right foot to the left. On the actual impact with the ball the whole weight is put behind the stroke as it is transferred to the left foot."

"As to the actual shot," the captain of West Oaks went on, "the racket arm is brought forward with a long and upward sweep. The thumb should be kept limp, but pressure put on the racket with the first finger so that the playing surface acquires that vital forward tilt. It is this tilt and the forward and upward movement which obtains vital top-spin. One last point," continued Jack. "Never bring your racket across your body as you make the stroke. Acquire a nice long sweep with a good follow-through movement."

* * *

Learn to play T.T. with Bunny Britton. Order your monthly copy NOW from your local newsagent.

HINTS on—

Forehand and Backhand Attack

By RON SHARMAN
LEADING ENGLISH PLAYER

(Holder of many open Tournaments, including Home Counties, Yorkshire and Bournemouth. Exhibitionist at Bullin's Holiday Camps.)

WHEN coaching club players, I have frequently been asked what, in my opinion, is the reason why so few players have both a good backhand and forehand attack. I have also been asked what I would suggest as a method of practice to help a player to develop an attack on both wings.

My answer to the former has always been that the great majority of players have not mastered the art of changing their grip during the course of a rally. If you have studied the grip and style of the really good players who use both backhand and forehand attack effectively—such as Nash, McClure, Slarr and our own players, Eric Filby and Jack Carrington—you will have observed that a totally different grip is used for backhand than for forehand. Therein lies the real secret of successful attack on both wings. A little thought will convince one that the perfect grip for a really good backhand would be quite useless for forehand attack, and *vice versa*.

In answer to the latter question, I would recommend the following method of practice. Take careful note of the correct grip for the backhand flick or drive. (Barna, Slarr and other first-class players who use the backhand attacking stroke favour the placing of the thumb up the blade for added support and control). Then form your opinion of the correct grip for forehand drive. After you have gained a complete mental picture of the two different grips required, practise changing your

grip for both strokes, without a ball, or even without a table. When you are able to do this to your satisfaction, persuade a friend to chop the ball gently, to your forehand and backhand alternately. After a little practice, you will find you are quite able to change your grip between forehand and backhand strokes, while still having time to complete the correct action. Then persuade your friend to half-volley, first to your backhand, then to your forehand. At the same time, endeavour to change your grip and carry out the correct stroke in the shorter time allowed to you by your partner's half-volley returns. Practise changing your grip in this way until you can do it fairly efficiently. Then use the correct grip whenever attempting a backhand or forehand attacking stroke in practice games and matches, and you will eventually find you will change your grip automatically. You will then be well on the way to developing a really efficient backhand and forehand attacking stroke.

Many young players will think all this practice is going to be very monotonous, and will wonder whether the game is really worth it. But they should remember that great players are not born, but become great only after endless hours of practice, and that being a great player brings its own rewards, such as success in tournaments, trips to other countries, and above all, the satisfaction of playing really well a game that requires the utmost physical and mental effort.

The Game in Scotland

THE draw for the European Cup is the first announcement of any of the new season's events as far as Scotland is concerned. In the men's section of the European Cup, Scotland entertain Switzerland

By HELEN ELLIOT
(Scottish International, Holder of the Scottish, Irish and Lancashire Open Singles Titles.)

of Glasgow, Miss Pithie, of Edinburgh, and myself.

Scotland are due to play matches against Ireland and Wales at home and England away, and while it is not anticipated that we shall be any match for "the auld enemy," it is hoped that the games in the Irish and Welsh matches will be closely fought.

The competition for the Scottish Team Cup will be one of the main events of the programme, and this year the officials of the S.T.T.A. have under consideration a similar zone competition for doubles play. In the Team Cup, my own club, Gambia, will be keen to retain the trophy which they won last year.

With the return to more normal conditions, the various District Leagues will shortly be taking up their activities on an increased scale. The leagues in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Fife and Aberdeen will be carrying through their programmes of League Championships, Individual Tournaments and Inter-District games, while the affiliation of the Greenock and Kilmarnock Leagues will be welcomed by the National Association.

During the war years many strong players from the south were able to take part in the game in Scotland, and we derived great benefit by being able to play with them. Now, however, most of them have left, and it seems that Scottish players will have to create their own opportunities of improving their play by entering tournaments in the south, where I know their presence would be greatly welcomed.



HELEN ELLIOT

at home, and the result of this match is quite speculative as nothing is known here about the strength of the opposition. If, however, it in any way approaches that of France or Belgium, the task of defeating them would appear to be beyond the home team.

The Scottish ladies travel to Ireland for their first round tie in their section, and they have a definite chance of going into the next round. In the International match against that country last March, the Scottish ladies won, and I feel sure that we can get through on this occasion.

Trials are to be held at Dundee next month before the ladies' team is selected, but it is doubtful whether any new players will be chosen. It would appear, therefore, that the selection will be made from Mrs. Norrie, of Dundee, Mrs. Josephson,

Stanley Proffitt

(English Swaythling Cup Player)

COMMENCES A COMPLETE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

Develop Your Style

A BEGINNER must watch first-class players in action, in order to get a clear picture of the orthodox style of play. In the past far too many youngsters have styled themselves on the local champion whose game did not comply with the authentic. Examples of "follow the leader" are to be found even to-day in Northumberland and Durham, where the majority focussed their styles on Teddy Rimer or Reay, while in the Midlands Adrian Haydon became the model for local fans. (Alas, there was only one Haydon!)

Go, then, and see the finest players before settling down on the grim road to stardom, modelling your game, not particularly upon an individual, as Lurie and Miller did, with Barna, but endeavour to combine a number of ideas with your individualities.

When studying champions in action do not follow the flight of the ball, by doing so valuable hints are missed, but concentrate on one player at a time. Pursue the whole action from the start to finish of a stroke—the arm, head and body movements, and also watch the feet—how they swing into position. All such points are helpful, and when put into practice mould one into the finished player.

The Ideal Conditions

During this post-war period of austerity we have to be thankful for

Stanley Proffitt is one of the best-known English players. He represented England in Swaythling Cup Matches from 1929 to 1931, and again in 1935 to 1937, and though he is now 35 years of age, he is still at the top. He is a professional cricketer, having played for Essex, and at the moment he is professional for Clitheroe in the Ribblesdale League.

any club in which to practice; but I would like to put before you what I consider to be the ideal conditions of play. For one thing, a solid wooden flooring is ideal, and I am definitely not in love with concrete or composition. They are admirable for a fast and true bounce, but they take a heavy toll on your feet. Carpets, matting, and linoleum are, of course, out of the question, as they slow down the bounce considerably.

Space is an essential factor, and you cannot have enough of it. There should be no less than 12 to 15 feet run back, with approximately 8 to 10 feet on either side of the table. Equally so is the height of the room. If it is your custom to continually play under a low ceiling in cramped surroundings, you will find that the spaciousness of a large tournament room is so completely foreign that it will have a disastrous effect on your game. In a hall with a high, domed roof there is greater atmospherical resistance, which slows down the ball in its flight. Then the sound of the ball as it strikes the table and racket will be strange. All these points have a marked tendency to upset your standard of play and shake your confidence. Take an instance which occurred only last season when the Manchester Internationals, normally such stylists, floundered in the marshes of Belle Vue's gigantic stadium. They cut a sorry figure

against opposition which had been touring this country and abroad, and were thus accustomed to huge arenas. Remember the Manhattan Club, once situated in a cellar in London's East End. Despite the fact that they won the London League Championship, none of its members, with the one exception of Ernest Bublely, had any marked success in tournament play, and Ernest, I feel quite sure will bear me out that his achievements owed more to an uncanny mastery of freakish style, coupled with a splendid match temperament.

The Table

Do not be hoaxed into purchasing a table from the local carpenter. His sales talk may be perfection, but generally their products are well below tournament standard. The manufacture of tables is a skilled trade which only a few firms have mastered successfully.

For tournament and practice alike the depth of the table top must be one-inch-thick plywood, and for stability it should have eight solid

legs secured by strong connecting shafts. Craftsmen in huge workshops are specially trained to finish the playing surface. The sprayed paint goes on a dozen times or more, and on each occasion it is sandpapered until the dull-green finish is approved by the expert eye. Never attempt to recondition the playing surface of the table yourself.

Always Dress for Practice

At all times one should change into sports clothing. This is a compulsion in a major event; but in practice it is of tremendous importance. The dark-coloured flimsy shirt, grey flannels, skirt or shorts, and the rubber-soled canvas shoes become part of your game, and there is no unfamiliar feeling when playing on a big occasion. From a hygienic principle it is essential to change, and the brisk rub down before donning the outdoor wear is naturally a preventative against the common cold.

Next month I will discuss the basic foundation of a good style.

"TABLE" MANNERS By "CAVIARE"

Table Tennis players are the game's ambassadors. The audience wants to watch a good game, and has little interest in you as an individual. Harmless mannerisms are appreciated, and even amuse; but displayed conceit or temperament are intolerable. Get on with the match with a minimum of "preliminaries." Attract your public by being attractive. Don't demand quietness—take their breath away.

In your relations with other players be courteous to those you pass on your way up—they will surely remember you on your inevitable descent.

Middlesex Table Tennis Association

The officers of this Association are:—President, Sir Arthur Elvin, M.B.E. Chairman, R. C. Mortlake Mann (Wembley). Gen. Sec.—Treasurer, G. R. Harrower (N. Middx.). Executive Committee, L. M. Bromfield (N. Middx.), E. Connell (Staines), C. H. Milligan (Yiewsley and W. Drayton), D. G. Rutherford (Willesden), B. J. Waldron (Wembley and Harrow), H. R. Wallis (S.W. Middx.). Press Sec. (Actg.), L. M. Bromfield (N. Middx.). The committee is now busy working out a programme of closed championships, inter-league championships, inter-county games, etc.



IMPERIAL LEATHER

Toilet Soaps are Hand Finished

A delight to the connoisseur
of quality the world over

Cussons

CUSSONS SONS & CO. LTD., 73, GROSVENOR ST., LONDON, W.1

League Brevities

By HON. SEC.

CENTRAL (London)

The A.G.M. elected the same officials as last year except for the Treasurer, who is now Mr. C. E. Green, the No. 1 player of last season's champion team. The league will consist of 42 clubs comprising 71 teams in seven divisions. Ron. Sharman, R. S. Cooper and Miss Pinkie Barnes are expected to be regular players.

CREWE

Thirty teams are lined up to take part in the season's programme, and a men's team has been entered in the newly-formed Lancashire and Cheshire League.

EXETER

The committee for the present season is:—*President*, R. C. Hurford. *Chairman*, F. G. Grigg. *Vice-Chairman*, W. Creber. *Sec. and Treasurer*, H. J. Amery. *Ass. Sec.*, F. D. Perry. *Reg. Sec. and Press Rep.*, L. C. Kerlake. *Life Members*, A. S. King, A. E. Snow, also Messrs. Blackbourne, Spry, Addicott, Bridle, and Miss Foot.

FOREST OF DEAN

This league covers a small area between the Severn and the Wye, and although only in its second season great progress is being made. Winner of last year's men's-singles was H. Wellington of Lydney.

HULL

During the summer several youngsters have been given coaching and encouragement, and excellent results have been achieved which promises well for the future. Last season's local champion was M. A. Bishop (Judeans Club). First-rate playing conditions are promised for the Hull Open in November. Present holders of Singles events are, *Men's*,

R. Rumjahn (Liverpool). *Ladies*, P. Franks (London). *Youth's*, K. Parks (Leeds).

LIVERPOOL

The season commences on October 14th, and a dance will be held at the Carlton, Eberle Street, on Friday, October 18th. The coaching scheme for young players which proved so successful during the summer will be continued and augmented in the coming months by Harry Knibbs and Bob Roberts as the official coaches. The Management Committee is hoping to make this a record season. In 1938-39, the league consisted of 108 teams with 1,000 registered players.

NORTH MIDDLESEX

The season commences with 160 teams which is thought to be a record for the country. Present league champions are Glencairn who are able to field such leading players as Bill Stennett, Gilbert Marshall, Leslie Bromfield and Ron Drake. Men's Singles champion is Geoff Harrower who with his wife, holds the Mixed Doubles. Mrs. R. E. Bromfield holds the Ladies' Singles, while the Men's Doubles champions are L. M. Bromfield and J. H. Green. Mrs. Bromfield and Miss E. Benstead are the Ladies' Doubles champions. Chairman of the league is Mr. W. T. Bennett and the Secretary is Leslie Bromfield.

NORWICH

Nearly 1,000 players are registered with 48 clubs, and the standard of play promises to be high. The league champions are C.E.Y.M.S., and they played their first match of the season on September 23rd against Y.M.C.A. "A." The Secretary is H. E. Betts of School House, Banham, Norwich.

English International Trials

By Our
International Player
Reporter
PINKIE BARNES

THE first English international trials of the season took place in London on August 31st, and teams were then chosen for an England versus The Rest match, which was played at Southampton on September 15th. The main idea of these trials was to select both a men's and women's team to visit Czecho-Slovakia during the first two weeks of this month.

Vera Dace and Elizabeth Blackburne were automatically chosen as the English team without taking part in any trials—a choice about which no one could quibble. The position of reserve was given to Peggy Franks after play had taken place between Misses Franks, McBryde, Mackay, Steventon, Patterson and Wilkinson.

In the first men's trials in August it was obvious that everyone suffered from lack of tournament practice, and found it hard to get down to a good flowing game. The men taking part were Messrs. Mackay, Birch, Hook, Rumjahn, Carrington, Coller, Bublely, Casofsky, Goodman, Merrett, Crayden and Dennis Miller. Johnny Leach did not take part, and both Stanley Proffitt and Ken Stanley were invited but could not attend.

From the performance of these players the following match was arranged—England: J. Leach, J. Carrington and G. Harrower (all of London). The Rest: B. Casofsky and E. Goodman (Manchester), and R. Rumjahn (Liverpool). Here was an event which enthusiasts had often longed to see, namely North versus South.

The Carlton Drill Hall at Southampton, on September 15th, held quite a good-sized crowd to

watch this event, which was very well received. Viewing it from the standpoint of a seasoned player, however, it was very patchy table tennis and it seemed that the players, realizing that a European trip was in the offing, were almost too careful in their play. There was a feeling of nervous tension, and apart from Ronnie Rumjahn's remarkably sparkling form, the games on the whole did not keep to a high level.

The best two matches of the evening were Leach *v.* Casofsky, and Carrington *v.* Rumjahn. In the former, Casofsky started off with some of his amazing side-to-side hitting, utterly bewildering Leach and winning the first game 21-8. If he could only keep to this form, he could beat anybody in the game, but unfortunately, he can never be as devastating throughout three games. During the second game, Leach's tactics came to the fore and he turned the tables on Casofsky by out-positioning him a number of times, eventually winning 21-16. In the final game, Leach found his real form, and started off with a good lead at 9-1. By this time Casofsky had lost confidence in his hitting and Leach was well on top, forcing him on the defensive, which of course was fatal for Casofsky, and Leach finished up the winner by 21-11.

Ronnie Rumjahn's fighting spirit deserves high praise. His games against Leach were battles of determination and although he lost two straight he fought every inch of the way, as will be seen by the result of the final game, 22-20. His games against Carrington, too, brought a great ovation from the crowd. Here it is worth mentioning one noticeable

point about the Northerners' play, which is their ability to swing the ball and hit consistently from side to side. Casofsky does this remarkably well, hiding the direction so slyly that he frequently fools his opponent. Rumjahn can do this to a lesser degree, but his success against Carrington was mostly on account of his clever angling shots, coupled with some good counter-hitting. The final point of the second game was the best rally of the evening, with very fast, exciting table tennis on either side. Rumjahn pulled off this match at 21-14, 21-16.

As for the others, Harrower was not on his best form, although he did amuse the crowd with his usual showmanship. His frequent exclamations of "Yes," "No" and "Ah," coupled with his habit of remaining in a fixed position (rather like the kiddies' game of statues) after he has executed a winning shot with more aplomb than usual, brought gales of laughter from the

onlookers. Goodman, who has extremely long arms, performed some very good retrieving at times, and his backhand, although produced in a weird and wonderful manner entirely his own, showed patches of brilliance.

On the whole, however, the players did not do themselves justice, and we can only hope that, under entirely different circumstances and with much more at stake in Prague, they will reach undreamed of heights.

The individual results were as follows:—

Carrington beat Casofsky, 22-20, 15-21, 21-16.
Lost to Goodman, 21-13, 12-21, 17-21.
Lost to Rumjahn, 14-21, 16-21.
Leach beat Casofsky, 8-21, 21-16, 21-11.
Beat Goodman, 21-13, 21-10.
Beat Rumjahn, 21-15, 22-20.
Harrower lost to Casofsky, 21-19, 12-21, 14-21.
Beat Goodman, 21-18, 22-20.
Beat Rumjahn, 21-14, 19-21, 21-15.
England 6; The Rest 3.

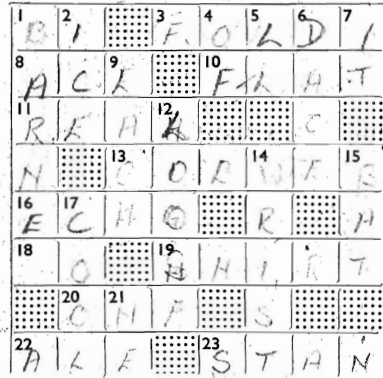
The team selected to visit Prague was Leach, Rumjahn, Harrower, and Carrington. Reserve, Goodman.



Johnny Leach, Miss Vera Dace, and Jack Carrington.

Crossword Competition

Half a guinea will be awarded for the first all-correct solution opened on November 1. Closing date, October 31.



CLUES ACROSS.

1. Relating to two.
3. Hungarian International.
8. Service almost impossible at T.T.
10. Vana often hits the ball like this.
11. Actual.
13. The club table has so much use, you wouldn't see this on the playing surface.
16. Reflection of sound.
18. Preposition.
19. Article of dress.
20. Number of Englishmen to win World's Singles Title.
22. Not the best beverage for the player in training.
23. Name by which this left-handed International, returned to the North, is known to his friends.

CLUES DOWN.

1. Players from this district play in and around London.
2. This should make you 17 down.
4. Preposition.
5. London League (abbreviation).
6. Nothing "fishy" about this little lady's forehand smash, for instance.
7. Preposition.
9. Some umpires say "All"—others favour "_____".
12. This type of ball should be "killed."
14. Your game may suffer if this gets out of control.
15. Some players like a small one occasionally.
17. Don't get hot and bothered, see 2 down.

SOLUTION TO SEPTEMBER COMPETITION.

The Winner has already received his half-guinea prize, and his name and address will be announced in the November issue.



Future Events

OPEN TOURNAMENTS

- Oct. 12—Birmingham.
 - Oct. 19—Thameside (London).
 - Oct. 26—Lancashire (Manchester).
 - Nov. 16—Hull.
 - Nov. 23—Central London.
 - Nov. 30—Merseyside (Liverpool).
 - Dec. 7—North Midland (Mansfield).
- (In each case the date given is the last day of the tournament).

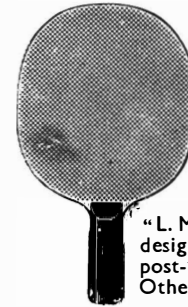
* * *

- World's Championships — Paris, Feb. 27 to March 4.
- English Open Finals—March 15.

WHERE TO BUY YOUR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

- Sports traders are invited to make use of this register. Terms sent upon request.*
- Manchester**
H. C. Cooke Sports Depot Ltd.,
26, John Dalton St., Manchester, 2.
 - Sheffield**
H. H. B. Sugg Ltd.,
Finstone Street, Sheffield.
 - Swansea**
Geo. A. Tandy,
West End Sports House,
58, St. Helens Road, Swansea.

BROMFIELD



THE
TABLE TENNIS
SPECIALISTS

BATS

"L. M. BROMFIELD" specially designed rubber bat. New post-war model, 8/6 each. Other rubber bats, 6/6, 7/6, 8/3, 8/11

SCORE BOOKS

for teams of 3, 4 or 5 players. Including full Rules and Knotty Points. With or without perforated sheets. 2/- each.

BAT COVERS, NETS, POSTS, SHADES, BADGES, AND ALL EQUIPMENT. TABLES RECONDITIONED. Obtainable from all good Sports Shops. Write for list.

R. E. BROMFIELD, 5, Edenbridge Road, Enfield, Middx.

THE POPULAR EASTERN SUBURBAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

will be held at
THE NORTH ILFORD CLUB, ILFORD
November 4th to 9th, 1946

FINALS at the
BATHS HALL, High Road, Ilford

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9th
Entry forms and all particulars from
W. J. Parker,
37, Hamilton Avenue, Barkingside, Essex.

Table Tennis Bats

RUBBER BOTH SIDES
MEDIUM BRAMBLE

4s. 6d. each. Postage 6d.

Trade and Clubs Supplied.

S.A.E. for Reply

JOHN G. TOMS,
18, Norbett Road, Arnold,
NOTTINGHAM.

A PAN PRESS PUBLICATION



A unique magazine with a large appeal

RECREATION CANOE & SMALL BOAT

Britain's Outdoor Magazine

Not necessarily to boat-lovers only but to all those who indulge in recreation of any description, indoor or out.



Price Monthly

of all Bookstalls and Newsagents or by yearly subscription, 13/- including postage

PAN PRESS PUBLICATIONS LIMITED
King William St. House, Arthur Street,
LONDON, E.C.4

*Phone: Mansion House 1955-1956, 7327

Don't risk a miss!

A limited number of copies of *Table Tennis Review* appear on the bookstalls each month, and the only sure way of becoming a regular reader is to fill in the form below.

To *Table Tennis Review*,
28, Kenworthy's Buildings,
83, Bridge Street,
Manchester, 3.

Please send me *Table Tennis Review* for the next six or twelve months for which I enclose a remittance of 3s. 6d. or 7s.

Name

Address

..... Date